

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2369
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2005
IMPORT OF COCONUT OIL
Manoj Dr. K.S.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the production/consumption of coconut oil during the said period;
- (b) whether there is a gap between demand and supply of the coconut oil;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken to meet the demand of this oil in the country;
- (d) whether the Government has imported coconut oil during the last three years;
- (e) if so, the details thereof, country-wise; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interest of the Industry as a result of fall in prices of coconut oil and import?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN)

(a): The production of coconut oil in the country for the last three years is as under:

Year	Production (LakhTon)
2002-03	4.00
2003-04	3.99 (Provisional)
2004-05	3.87 (Provisional)

There are no separate figures for consumption. However, ordinarily the entire production is consumed domestically.

(b) & (c): The demand for coconut oil considerably varies according to seasonal requirements. The peak demand for coconut oil usually coincides with the festive-seasons. Whenever the price goes up beyond a certain level, consumers prefer other cheaper substitute oils. When the price of coconut oil is at a reasonable level, the demand and supply will coincide and whatever produced will be absorbed by the domestic market,

(d) & (e): The details of import of coconut oil during the last three years are as under:

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05 (Upto Feb)	
Country	Qty (MT)	Val (Rs. Lakhs)	Qty (MT)	Val (Rs. Lakhs)

NEPAL	60	23.53	Nil	Nil	235	108.15
INDONESIA	27739	5621.51	8925	1928.48	9583	2861.21
MALAYSIA	2585	576.56	4237	928.41	2603	884.75
GERMANY	32	14.75	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
USA	0	0.07	0	0.02	Nil	Nil
BAHARAIN IS	Nil	Nil	5	4.11	Nil	Nil
JAPAN	Nil	Nil	1	0.19	Nil	Nil
POLAND	Nil	Nil	0	0.09	Nil	Nil
SINGAPORE	Nil	Nil	19	5.86	33	8.20
THAILAND	Nil	Nil	515	90.39	3	1.14
U ARAB EMTS	Nil	Nil	58	21.65	Nil	Nil
PHILIPPINES	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	34	13.03
Total	30416	6236.42	13760	2979.2	12491	3876.48

(f): Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) of the Government of India helps farmers to get remunerative price whenever prices fall below MSP. Accordingly, Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) recommends MSP for Copra every year in consultation with State Government, CPCRI, NAFED, CDB etc. Coconut Development Board undertakes generic publicity for coconut and coconut products so as to generate more demand. The Board also supports product diversification and new product development to

safeguard the interest of the coconut industry.

Coconut oil is included in the sensitive items and is being closely monitored for any surge in the import. The Government is committed to ensure through tariff and other measures that imports do not cause injury to the domestic farmers/Industry.